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African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/174, the present report contains information on the work of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, including on its substantive programme and on activities it has developed to support States in the region in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice. In the report, the governance and management of the Institute are examined, the measures taken to initiate and maintain international cooperation and partnerships with other agencies are described and further opportunities for funding and support are identified. The report also contains information on the future of the Institute as a unique promoter of socio-economic development in the region through crime prevention initiatives and on practical measures aimed at ensuring the sustainability of the Institute.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 62/174 of 18 December 2007. It focuses on the programmes and operations of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, the opportunities available to the Institute and proposals for funding it. The activities described in the report highlight the growing capacity of the Institute's member States to build upon good practices arising from strategic interaction with partners. It also underscores a growing awareness of the link between crime and development and describes the existing capacities and potential of member States to initiate, promote and implement effective crime prevention and criminal justice measures. The ultimate goal of all those measures is the maintenance of peace and security as prerequisites for supporting sustainable socio-economic development in the region.

2. African States are steadily developing a commitment to incorporate crime prevention strategies into their national development agendas based on empirical studies and guidelines contained in international conventions and regional initiatives. They are also increasingly drawing on traditional practices. The crime problem in Africa is marked by weaknesses in crime detection and law enforcement mechanisms and by inappropriate and ineffective legislation. There is also a limited capacity to prosecute crime. The greater operational capacities of criminal groups means that crimes often go undetected and are seldom punished. In addition, the fact that in some African States legislation is obsolete means that, even when crime is detected and prosecuted, court cases are often undermined by the strategies of criminal groups aimed at forestalling legal procedures.

3. The information available to the Institute shows that African States are facing difficulties in managing their criminal justice systems. In addition, in most African States the rule of law and good governance are further compromised by conflict or its aftermath. Even where there is no open conflict, the high prevalence of illiteracy, superstition and wealth disparity aggravate the quality of life of the population, undermine efforts to advance socio-economic development and impede the realization of set goals. All of those factors seriously weaken the justice system, thus enabling impunity and further strengthening criminal groups.

4. Owing to limited human resources, insufficient infrastructure and inappropriate equipment, viable investments in effective crime prevention and criminal justice systems, in particular in the fight against organized criminal groups, remain a challenge in Africa. Nonetheless, efforts are increasingly being made to build capacity in crime prevention and criminal justice administration. As demonstrated by the attention and support given to regional and international initiatives promoting crime prevention and criminal justice administration and the integration of those initiatives into networks that are part of the African mainstream, there is a commitment to invest in that area. Consequently, local and regional action-oriented research programmes, information-sharing schemes and toolkits aimed at imparting and improving skills for joint activities between experts and other partners have received tangible support.

5. Having realized that professional expertise can be effective in addressing and defending community needs against the disrupting effects of criminal activities,

African States are developing mechanisms to combat the crime problem. Policies, practice and legislation are being reviewed in order to give legitimacy to new crime prevention and criminal justice administration procedures that prioritize community participation.

6. In part by supporting the drug control and crime prevention efforts of the Institute, the African Union Commission encourages initiatives such as the Programme of Action for 2006-2010 on Crime and Drugs as Impediments to Security and Development in Africa; the Revised African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007-2012); the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT), through which human trafficking is tackled by reducing the vulnerability of potential victims in Africa; and the Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) initiative, through which corruption is fought and assets stolen and transferred out of African States are recovered. Such support is an indication of the growing effort being made to foster cooperation and partnerships between African States and international crime prevention networks designed to promote collaborative efforts between the public and private sectors. The Institute, which is just one entity promoting international crime prevention initiatives in Africa, is a key partner in the implementation of the Programme of Action at the centre of such initiatives for Africa.

7. During the period under review, the Institute continued to receive political and technical support from its member States, its Governing Board, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Economic Commission for Africa, the General Assembly, the African Union, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other interested parties, including representatives of the private sector and civil society, academic institutions (such as universities), experts and other partners. The support and assistance received, including through partnerships with donor Governments and agencies, have enabled the Institute to offer technical assistance to its member States and to participate in a number of important activities.

8. With the support of UNODC, the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders has continued to appeal to authorities in the African region for suitable mechanisms aimed at promoting and highlighting the use of local resources as valuable components to crime prevention strategies. With the assistance of members of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and of member States, the Institute has tapped into a wealth of experience and availed itself of the technical and logistical support of the network for coordinating appropriate crime prevention responses tailored to the needs of African countries. The Institute has also continued to encourage its member States to ratify the United Nations conventions against crime and to integrate them into their national action plans on crime prevention.

9. The main focus of the Institute's activities has continued to be the promotion of crime prevention through the incorporation, into the national action plans of member States, of the provisions of relevant international instruments and of good practices acquired through collaborative efforts and empirical studies based on the findings of surveys aimed at seeking concrete information. Arrangements have been made to consolidate information-sharing capacity through systematic awareness-raising programmes and collaboration with partner agencies. Efforts have been

made to encourage imparting and upgrading skills through research, knowledge-sharing, the encouragement of professionalism and the exchange of expertise among persons working on crime prevention and criminal justice in Africa. Efforts have also been made to incorporate international instruments into national legislation while taking into consideration the needs and realities of each country and exposing officials to selected traditions relating to crime prevention and criminal justice administration. The aim of such a strategy is to recognize the potential of the crime prevention measures developed in each country, paying due attention to the need to develop and maximize local values so as to make the measures more meaningful, sustainable and practical.

II. Governance and management

A. Governing Board

10. The tenth session of the Governing Board of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders was held in Khartoum on 19 and 20 May 2008. At that session, the Board committed itself to a number of medium and long-term measures in order to increase support for its activities. Those measures would be submitted for ratification at a special session of the Board, to be hosted by the Government of Kenya as a side event of a conference of African ministers also scheduled to take place in Nairobi.

11. At its tenth session, the Board noted with concern the low levels of financial contributions received from member States. It directed the Institute to be more proactive in improving the perception of the Institute among all African States and partners and in increasing the Institute's membership. In that regard, the Board urged the Institute to consider focusing on targeted initiatives to address the crime problems of each country.

12. The Board urged the Institute to intensify its fund-raising efforts and adopt practical measures aimed at rallying enough support to enable it to operate at an optimal level. The Institute should improve its dialogue with member States, emphasizing the need of such States to increase their participation in the Institute's activities, which would help it to develop collaborative relationships with a number of institutions. With regard to the precarious financial situation of the Institute, the representatives of the Governments of Cameroon, Kenya and Nigeria stated that financial contributions by their Governments would be received shortly after that session. The representative of the Sudan requested the Director of the Institute and the Chairman of the Board to consult the relevant authorities in Khartoum in order to expedite the payment of the contribution of the Sudan.

13. Other measures considered by the Board included the use of political networks to encourage member States to pay their contributions and to urge non-members to become members of the Institute. The Board also advised the Institute to take the opportunity offered by the meeting of the conference of African ministers to be held in Nairobi to propose a revision of expected financial contributions in view of the improved economic status of some African States.

14. Also at its tenth session, the Governing Board approved the programme of work of the Institute and thanked the General Assembly, UNODC and the United

Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network for the assistance provided to the Institute in the implementation of several activities. The Board noted that in its resolution 62/174 the Assembly had urged all Member States, non-governmental organizations and the international community to continue adopting concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and to implement its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa.

15. Further, the Board approved long-term measures related to the effective use of facilities made available by the Government of Uganda and focused on the prospect of investments in real estate development on land owned by the Institute. In that connection, the Board urged the Government of Uganda to expedite the issuance of property deeds to the Institute, as that would facilitate the establishment of joint ventures with the private sector.

B. General direction and management

16. The activities carried out by the Institute during the period under review have focused on the development of practical, cost-effective and sustainable crime prevention measures involving contributions from all sectors of society and technical support from specialized agencies and other partners at the local, national, regional and international levels. The Institute has benefitted from the support of the following entities: UNODC; the Uganda discharged prisoners association and the Prison Fellowship Uganda, in Uganda; the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters, in Nigeria; the Institut itinérant de formation et de prévention intégrées contre la drogue et autres conduites addictives, in Guinea; the Ghana Media Advocacy Programme, in Ghana; the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy, in Canada; Naif Arab University for Security Sciences, in Saudi Arabia; and the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice and North Carolina Central University, in the United States of America.

17. The Institute has also continued to cooperate with agencies in the promotion of crime prevention and criminal justice in Africa. To that end, the Institute has increasingly become involved in the implementation of regional programmes in collaboration with UNODC and the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy. The Institute plans to collaborate more closely with the UNODC Regional Office for North Africa and the Middle East in Egypt, the UNODC Regional Office for Western Africa in Senegal and the UNODC Regional Office for Southern Africa in South Africa.

III. Substantive programmes and activities

A. Overview

18. The programme of work of the Institute is largely based on the needs of its member States and focuses specifically on building capacity and sustaining programme outputs. Programmes are coordinated by all partners, each of which is called upon to contribute in accordance with their capacity.

19. Out of concern for cost-effectiveness, efforts are made to implement activities on a regional basis, which has largely been accomplished through collaborative efforts involving financial and logistical support from all partners.

20. In implementing the programmes and activities of the Institute, an effort is made to strengthen those mechanisms for crime prevention which are available in African countries through training, policy development, research, awareness-raising, dissemination of information and consolidation of expertise among crime prevention and criminal justice personnel. Due to limitations imposed by insufficient logistical and financial support, priority is accorded to practical initiatives that have a multiplier effect, such as train-the-trainer initiatives.

B. Project activities

21. The main projects carried out by the Institute are listed below. They focus on carrying out research, strengthening cooperation, disseminating information and providing equipment and training.

1. Research

(a) Back home from prison project

22. Initially implemented as a pilot project involving prison authorities and aiming at promoting the social rehabilitation and reintegration of prisoners in Uganda, the project is gradually attracting the attention of prison authorities throughout the region. It is considered a good practice because it employs cost-effective measures to fight recidivism and because it is implemented using local resources. Such measures have been instrumental in marketing the principles of the project. In Uganda, those measures have been adopted in the operation and management of prisons and enshrined in the State's statutory framework because of their sustained applicability. The Institute has received requests to introduce the project from the Governments of Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria and the United Republic of Tanzania.

(b) Evaluation study of alternative dispute resolution systems

23. There is growing concern throughout Africa about the escalating costs of managing prisons. The situation is further complicated by the operational deficiencies of the existing criminal justice systems. In States that have experienced extreme conflict, such as Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Somalia and Uganda, the need to adopt practical, tailored initiatives that require the application of non-conventional mechanisms for administering justice, including traditional justice systems, is becoming crucial. Equally important is the need to give due attention to cultural sensitivities in the process.

(c) Factors causing recidivism in Uganda

24. The Institute is currently researching ways to strengthen the criminal justice system and the administration of correctional facilities following a rampant increase in and concern about recidivism in Uganda. The consultations on the provision of technical support to combat recidivism that have been taking place between the

Institute and prison authorities in Kampala have resulted in training sessions for welfare officers of the Uganda Prisons Services on reconciliation, rehabilitation and reintegration. Further consultations are taking place with representatives of North Carolina Central University that will eventually lead to the visit of a team of experts from the United States (initially scheduled to take place in October 2007) to assist with modernizing data management systems, carrying out routine improvements and providing general administration, follow-up, monitoring and outreach activities, as well as developing strategies to provide further technical support to the Uganda Prisons Services.

(d) Cyberwatch project

25. The Institute has developed a study, in conjunction with the commercial and banking sectors and institutions such as universities and colleges, to explore the impact of Internet-based scams, in particular on financial transactions. In response to the challenges posed by such scams to the legitimate use of the Internet, in particular for financial transactions, the Institute is expanding its related awareness-raising programme to the regional level. Arrangements are in place for implementing regional campaigns aimed at enhancing the dissemination of information on cybercrime, for example through consultative visits, correspondence and the establishment of memorandums of understanding between the Institute and regional bodies such as the Ghana Media and Advocacy Programme, to cover West Africa, and the Benjamin Mkapa HIV/AIDS Foundation in the United Republic of Tanzania, to cover the Central and Southern Africa subregions. It is anticipated that through such mechanisms, the project will be replicated effectively in all subregions at little cost for all parties involved.

(e) Evaluation study of alternative dispute resolution in Rwanda

26. The genocide that took place in Rwanda has prompted the need for a careful analysis and review of the criminal justice system, considering the overwhelming number of suspects still awaiting trial and the severity of the crimes committed. As part of its programme to develop innovative projects that meet the needs of member States with limited criminal justice capacity, the Institute has developed a study to evaluate the effectiveness of the criminal justice system in Rwanda, with particular reference to the traditional system of justice administration, the *gacaca* system. The findings of the study are expected to have wider implications on the need to reform the criminal justice systems of several African countries emerging from situations of ethnic and political tension. The study attaches great importance to the social rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders. The Institute is currently establishing contacts with international entities with the aim of building sufficient capacity and logistical support to undertake the study. The relevant authorities of the Governments of Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda and Zambia have contacted the Institute expressing interest in having the study extended to their countries.

(f) Transnational trafficking in persons in Nigeria

27. Launched in June 2006, the joint research project between the Government of Nigeria and the Institute on strategies to curb transnational trafficking in human beings is at an advanced stage. The findings of the study have been published in a report that is due to be launched officially in Nigeria in the course of 2008. Since

the problem of trafficking in persons is regional, the launch of the report will necessarily affect countries in the region, underscoring the need for enhanced regional efforts. The research project has also provided an opportunity to promote the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[1] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[2] by all States in Africa. The report will be widely circulated in order to stimulate a comprehensive response and concerted action by all involved.

(g) Study on trafficking in children

28. A study on the emerging trend of trafficking in children in several African countries, including Uganda, has been finalized. The report is ready to be launched in Kampala in the second half of 2008 and will be widely circulated. In that regard, efforts are being made to form a coalition against human trafficking, whose task it will be to raise awareness about trafficking in persons. Contacts have been made with relevant organizations and partners, including regional organizations, the media and national authorities, to secure participation and financial contributions.

(h) Curbing clandestine immigration into the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

29. The problem of clandestine immigration is a worldwide phenomenon that particularly affects countries with relatively better economic opportunities and countries that are strategically placed along transit routes to destination countries in Europe and the Middle East and to the United States. In response to a request by the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Institute has developed a project proposal to address clandestine immigration into that country. Subject to the availability of funds, a regional preliminary consultation meeting of experts will be convened to plan modalities of executing the project.

(i) Country profile project

30. The Institute continues to maintain an updated database of crime-related statistics on Africa. The database offers universities, legislators, law enforcement and policymaking authorities and other professionals a reliable source of information for the accomplishment of their specific tasks. National authorities in the region continue to respond to the Institute's requests and proposals for the exchange of statistics, as a result of which an increasing number of reports providing national statistics for inclusion in the database is being submitted. As part of the project, the statistics are to be made available online.

(j) Victimization survey

31. The African crime victimization survey, sponsored by UNODC and coordinated by the Institute, was launched in Uganda in late 2007. The survey was designed to collect data on various trends in different crimes affecting Africa and was designed as a pilot project to be replicated across Africa. The crimes surveyed include murder, theft of various sorts, rape, defilement, burglary and assault. A

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[2] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

report containing the findings of the survey was submitted to UNODC for consideration prior to implementation of the subsequent phase. Based on the findings of the study, relevant mechanisms for intervention and policymaking at the regional or international level, or both, will be recommended.

2. Training

(a) Short courses for improving criminal justice systems in Africa

32. In response to requests received from member States, the Institute is sourcing logistical support from partners to facilitate the implementation of a series of short courses for correctional officers in Africa. The programme and content of the scheduled training will address the nature of reported concerns, taking into account the principle of sharing good practices and the sociocultural realities of each country and subregion.

(b) Training workshops on parole, probation and community corrections

33. The collaboration between the Institute and the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy has resulted in an effort to respond to requests for technical support in the area of correctional reform in late 2007. The effort aims to improve understanding about non-custodial sanctions and to promote such sanctions in Kenya, Uganda and Zambia, where the maintenance costs of prisons are soaring and overcrowding is an increasing problem. The training workshops focused on the use and application of alternatives to imprisonment, in particular by stressing the value of community corrections and emphasizing parole and probation options. The value and use of social work in prisons was also emphasized. Interest in similar workshops has been expressed by several other African States.

(c) Technical support for prison reform in Uganda: the Prisons Act of 2006

34. The Ugandan prison authorities have requested the Institute to provide technical assistance for the implementation of reforms in correctional policy. The reforms are the result of ongoing consultations between the Institute and the Uganda Prisons Services and have been adopted by the Uganda Welfare and Rehabilitation Section in its day-to-day operations. A national conference held in March 2008 to review the efficacy of the reforms adopted for the smooth management of prisons in Uganda emphasized a human rights approach in the treatment of people in custody. The Institute was requested to discuss the existing challenges and opportunities for a better implementation of the Prisons Act, a major component of which arose from the back home from prison project (see para. 22).

(d) Workshop on criminalistics

35. Together with the Government of Uganda, the Institute has developed a project to improve the capacity of law enforcement agencies to detect, investigate and streamline the prosecution of crime through the use of available local expertise, equipment and scientific analysis of data in hospitals, universities, research institutions and other agencies. The report of the workshop on the science of criminalistics for professionals that was held in Uganda in January 2007 is ready to be disseminated. Similar workshops will be held in all African subregions. Training

sessions will also be organized to discuss the main concerns pertinent to the crime prevention agenda of interested States.

3. Cooperation

(a) Effective cooperation between the Institute and its partners

36. Increasingly, the network of partners of the Institute is collaborating and carrying out joint activities with agencies in the Africa region. Through participation in several meetings, the Institute is also benefitting from being exposed to other opportunities for cooperation. Further, improved relations with the media and improved communications through the Internet have increased the Institute's chances of making contact with prospective partners, including the private sector and non-traditional sources of support. It is hoped that through such improvements, the Institute will succeed in soliciting the additional technical assistance it needs to meet its obligations.

(b) Extradition and mutual legal assistance

37. The Institute is currently finalizing the extradition and mutual legal assistance project, which is expected to assist in the process of harmonizing legislation and promoting a consensus in the development of regional instruments. A meeting of experts and ministers has been planned to discuss the draft convention on extradition and mutual legal assistance (in order to consider any updates, assess the situation and study any new developments in the field), for subsequent consideration by the Executive Council of the African Union and leaders convening for the African Union Summit. Efforts are currently being made to find a host country for the proposed meeting.

4. Information dissemination

(a) Production of reports and a newsletter

38. As an ongoing activity, the Institute has continued to produce reports on implemented activities that are disseminated to partner agencies and made available online. Additional documents will soon be uploaded on the Institute's website (www.unafri.or.ug). Naif Arab University of Security Sciences has offered to print the reports of the studies on human trafficking in Nigeria and Uganda.

(b) Crime prevention journal

39. The Institute has developed a project to publish, on a regular basis, a compilation of research-based reports addressing crime patterns and prevention measures. The journal is expected to provide interested Governments with information on strategies to fight crime and on crime patterns prevalent in their subregion. It is hoped that the journal will foster collaboration with publishers and research institutions and extend the Institute's base of contacts in order to further promote its activities.

(c) Modernization of the information centre

40. In order to modernize and widen the scope and usability of its information centre, the Institute has finalized the initial process of uploading all resources online

so that they can be accessed internationally by a wider readership. Such resources include records of important expert meetings, conferences and visits at which thematic issues relating to crime prevention and criminal justice administration have been discussed. The work of making the resources available online is ongoing. It is anticipated that some publications will be made available only to subscribers, as a means to raise income for the Institute.

5. Equipment

Purchase of office equipment

41. Thanks to funds received from member States, partners and other donors, the Institute has been able to purchase new office equipment during the period under review.

IV. International cooperation and partnerships

42. Thanks to the pivotal role of UNODC, the Institute continues to cooperate with several other members of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice network.

43. As part of its efforts to mobilize sufficient capacity to implement activities for the benefit of its member States, the Institute has established contacts with organizations in those countries which are promoting crime prevention programmes and continues to maintain close links with regional and subregional political entities such as the Commission of the African Union, the East African Community, the Economic Commission of West African States, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the Southern African Development Community.

44. The Institute was represented at the following national, regional and international meetings:

(a) Regional conference on AIDS in the workplace and on employment crimes: firing them from work into fire and from the world, held in Kampala from 8 to 13 July 2007;

(b) Consultation meeting with the Economic Commission for Africa, held in Addis Ababa from 12 to 14 September 2007;

(c) General Assembly, held in New York (attendance from 3 to 11 October 2007);

(d) Coordination meeting of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, hosted by Naif Arab University of Security Studies, held in Riyadh on 11 and 12 November 2007;

(e) Workshops on enhancing community corrections, parole and probation, held in Nairobi and Lusaka in November and December 2007;

(f) Third Session of the African Union Conference of Ministers for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, held in Addis Ababa from 3 to 7 December 2007;

(g) African Union Workshop on HIV/AIDS and its Impact on Ex-Child Soldiers/Captives in the Great Lakes Region, held in Kampala on 21 and 22 February 2008;

(h) Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking, held in Vienna from 13 to 15 February 2008;

(i) Seventeenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Vienna from 14 to 18 April 2008;

(j) Workshop for correctional officers, held in Juba, the Sudan, from 1 to 6 June 2008.

V. Funding and support

45. The total income of the Institute for the period from January to December 2007 was 344,421.59 United States dollars, a drastic drop from the amount received in 2006 ($826,106.06). The decline is attributed to the low level of contributions received from member States in 2007 ($45,335.89) compared with 2006 ($525,109.90). The sources of the funds received were the following:

(a) Assessed contributions from member States, amounting to $45,335.89 (13 per cent);

(b) The 2007 portion of the United Nations grant, amounting to $231,680.25 (67 per cent);

(c) Other income received from rental of the premises and facilities of the Institute, as well as interest on deposits, amounting to $67,405.45 (20 per cent).

46. For the period from January to May 2008, the total resources of the Institute were valued at $356,934.83, consisting of the following:

(a) The 2008 portion of the United Nations grant for the biennium 2008-2009, amounting to $257,700.00, to pay the salaries of staff members in the Professional category from January to May 2008;

(b) Other income received from the rental of the Institute's premises from January to May 2008, amounting to $99,234.83. No funds have been received from assessed contributions of member States since January 2008.

A. Assessed financial contributions from member States

47. During the reporting period, the Institute was able to collect $45,335.89 from the following member States: Ghana ($4,150); Kenya ($9,912.53), Libyan Arab Jamahiriya ($29,894.07) and United Republic of Tanzania ($1,379.29). The non-payment of contributions by member States to the Institute has continued to be a major concern. Annual fees have continued to be paid irregularly, making it difficult for the Institute to predict with any level of certainty how much to expect in a given period. As at 31 May 2008, the outstanding balance is minus $3,064,244.93. Based on precedents, there is increasing scepticism about the balance ever being covered.

48. As reported in paragraphs 11 to 13 of the present report, the tenth session of the Governing Board of the Institute reviewed the problem of assessed member States contributions. On that occasion, the Board expressed its appreciation to those member States that had fulfilled their obligations by paying their contributions regularly and on time and urged those member States that had not yet done so to settle all outstanding arrears. As a result of that appeal, pledges were received from the representatives of the Governments of Cameroon, Kenya and Nigeria.

B. United Nations grant

49. The Institute has received a grant from the United Nations since 1992. The grant for the biennium 2008-2009 has been maintained at the same level as the previous grant ($380,300). As in the past, the grant will partially cover the salaries of the core posts in the Professional category, in other words the salaries of a Director, a Deputy Director, a Research Adviser, a Training Adviser, an Information and Documentation Adviser and an Administrative and Finance Officer.

50. Following the Board's decision to increase salaries by 75 per cent in order to bring them to almost half of those of United Nations staff, the total amount needed to pay the salaries of staff members in the Professional category for the biennium has increased to $697,900, thereby creating a deficit of $317,600 (current grant value, $380,300, minus total cost of salaries, $697,900).

51. At its tenth session, the Governing Board expressed its gratitude to the General Assembly and its relevant Committee for the continued financial support provided and called upon the Third Committee to consider recommending an increase in the value of the grant for the biennium 2010-2011. In that connection, the members of the Board agreed to advocate for an increase in the grant at the General Assembly.

C. Other income

52. For the period from January to December 2007, the Institute received $67,405.45 from interest and other income, as follows: (a) bank interest ($3,055.69); (b) gain on exchange rate ($5,528.43); (c) rental of premises ($10,034.79); (d) rental of land ($40,116.02); and (e) contribution by the Government of Uganda to the maintenance of the premises for the period from January to May 2008 ($8,670.52).

53. At its tenth session, the Governing Board of the Institute reaffirmed the decision it had taken at its 3rd extraordinary meeting authorizing the Director to enter into joint partnerships with real estate companies interested in developing the land given to the Institute by the Government of Uganda in order to earn additional income. It is expected that revenue gained from that source will be double that gained in 2007.

VI. Future of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

54. The demand for services from the Institute is progressively exceeding the capacities permitted by the current level of financial support, which means that a long list of outstanding activities cannot be carried out. The future of the Institute will, in large part, be marked by the decline in contributions made by member States and by the recommendations made by the Governing Board, at its tenth session, which aimed at stimulating a sustainable flow of resources from both conventional and non-conventional sources.

55. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 62/174, the Board, at its tenth session, encouraged the Institute to strengthen its collaboration with professional bodies and other organizations active in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice for the implementation of activities. The Board commended the increased partnership between the Institute and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network. With specific reference to UNODC, the Board expressed the hope that the levels of support given to implement programmes designed and undertaken in cooperation with the Institute would be reviewed. The Board called on the Assembly to consider reviewing the amount allocated to the Institute through the United Nations grant, which pays for the salaries of the Institute's core staff in the Professional category.

56. In consideration of the dire financial situation of the Institute and as mentioned in paragraph 11 of the present report, the Board has indicated its willingness to intensify its appeal to potential members to join the Institute. The Board expressed its willingness to assist in convening a conference of African ministers to discuss measures for improving the flow of resources to the Institute. Such measures would include lobbying for support from international agencies in the countries of origin of the ministers and advocating for increased donor support from the General Assembly.

57. Given that the main sources of income available to the Institute (contributions received from member States, the United Nations grant and interest and other income), are subject to factors beyond the Institute's influence, at least in the short term, the Board supports the Institute's proposal of diversifying its sources of income.

VII. Conclusion

58. The impact of crime is imposing an escalating cost to social development in Africa. The complex nature of transnational organized crime poses unprecedented challenges to the existing competences, weak facilities and scarce resources available for combating crime in African countries. Those challenges increase vulnerability and the need for concerted strategies, specialized technical support for capacity-building, the sharing of good practices based on regional and international initiatives and ongoing research in order to facilitate the development of policies and the implementation of appropriate remedial measures. As a mechanism for harnessing the available potential at local, regional and international levels, the Institute continues to design programmes that are mindful of the needs of African

countries for the development of effective crime prevention measures and the establishment of suitable criminal justice administrations.